

are in general sane and practical. However, advice somewhat exceeds the margin of safety in openly advocating "euthanasia by toys" in certain cases. M. H. L.

The Place of Version in Obstetrics—By Irving W. Potter, M. D., F. A. C. S. 138 pages, with 42 illustrations. St. Louis: C. V. Mosby Company, 1922. Price, \$5.

Unfortunately, only about fifty pages of the one hundred and forty of this monograph contain personal experiences of the author. Some seventy pages are devoted to the history of version. This portion of the volume is unquestionably the more interesting one, since it quotes many of the classical authorities verbally. As far as the chapters on technique are concerned, there is nothing new that has not been done in most every well conducted maternity. There is little argument offered and less proof given that the author's contention of delivering all women by version and extraction can be accepted for general teaching. Like in all other fields where technical skill can be developed to the finest point by a large amount of experience, so in obstetrics Potter has shown that this can be done without undue risk to the patient and the child. It is interesting that his percentage of Caesarean Sections runs close to 10 per cent of all cases delivered.

In a monograph like this one would expect the author to give his complete experience with this work rather than just a very meager discussion of the work of two years.

When reading the last chapters one can not help but feel that the author was hurrying to finish his volume for the press. I refrain from discussing the style of presenting the subject.

There are many salient points made in this book that are worth while to scrutinize. Aside from that and the historical introduction, this monograph is decidedly unsafe in the hands of students and beginners. L. A. E.

Clinical Electrocardiography—By Frederick A. Willius, B. S., M. D., M. S., in medicine. One hundred and eighty-eight pages, with 185 illustrations. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company, 1922.

The author shows that he appreciates the difficulties of the study. He has carefully digested the literature on the subject and gives it to the students of electrocardiography in an easy, digestible form. In his numerous pictures of electrocardiograms in cases of angina pectoris, it would have been better had he called attention to the peculiar characteristics, if any were present, in each of the electrocardiograms which he shows. H. S.

An Essay on the Physiology of Mind. An interpretation based on biological, morphological, physical and chemical considerations. By Francis X. Dercum. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company, 1922.

This 150-page essay of Dercum's is a protest against the attitude of those metaphysicians and psychologists by whom "the phenomena of mind have been approached as though they were peculiar in their character and being; as though a difference, essential and intrinsic, separated these phenomena by a wide and hopeless gap from all other phenomena of nature." In the first part of the book, one begins with the unicellular organism without nervous system, proceeds by way of the sponges through the fishes and the higher vertebrates to the fully developed human. No especial difficulty is encountered until one meets the word "consciousness" on page 82. The rest of the book is devoted to bridging the gap. The final chapter endeavors to explain the psychoses and the psycho-neuroses in terms of physiology. It is good reading for those who have read much or who will read much. Others may as well let it alone. E. W. T.

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